

# THE MÖBIUS-POMPEIU METRIC PROPERTY

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**In the paper we consider an extension of Möbius-Pompeiu theorem of the elementary geometry over metric spaces. We specially take into consideration Ptolemaic metric spaces.**

## 1 The Möbius-Pompeiu theorem and metric spaces

In this paper we consider the following statement of elementary geometry [1], [2]:

**Theorem 1.1 (Möbius, Pompeiu)** *Let  $ABC$  be an equilateral triangle and  $M$  any point in its plane. Then segments  $MA$ ,  $MB$  and  $MC$  are sides of a triangle.*

Let us consider analogous problem for the metric space  $(X, d)$  with at least four points. Let  $A, B, C \in X$  be three fixed points. Then, for the point  $M \in X$  we suppose that *a triangle can be formed* from the distances  $d_1 = d(M, A)$ ,  $d_2 = d(M, B)$  and  $d_3 = d(M, C)$  iff the following conjunction of inequalities is true:

$$(1.1) \quad d_1 + d_2 - d_3 \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d_2 + d_3 - d_1 \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d_3 + d_1 - d_2 \geq 0.$$

If in conjunction (1.1) at least one equality is true, then we suppose that *a degenerative triangle can be formed*. If in (1.1) sharp inequalities are true:

$$(1.2) \quad d_1 + d_2 - d_3 > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d_2 + d_3 - d_1 > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d_3 + d_1 - d_2 > 0,$$

then we suppose that *a non-degenerative triangle can be formed*. In this case, for the point  $M$ , for which the conjunction (1.2) is true, we define that *point have Möbius-Pompeiu metric property*. The main subject of this paper is to determine points  $M$  which do not have Möbius-Pompeiu metric property, i.e. these points which fulfill the following disjunction of the inequalities:

$$(1.3) \quad d_1 + d_2 - d_3 \leq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad d_2 + d_3 - d_1 \leq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad d_3 + d_1 - d_2 \leq 0.$$

Let us notice that the point  $M \in \{A, B, C\}$  do not have Möbius-Pompeiu metric property. Thus in consideration which follows, we assume that the metric space  $(X, d)$  has at least four points.

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## 2 Ptolemaic metric spaces

A metric space  $(X, d)$  is called *Ptolemaic metric space* if Ptolemaic inequality holds:

$$(2.1) \quad d(x_1, x_2)d(x_3, x_4) \leq d(x_2, x_4)d(x_1, x_3) + d(x_1, x_4)d(x_2, x_3)$$

for every  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in X$  [3]. A normed space  $(X, |\cdot|)$  is *Ptolemaic normed space* if metric space  $(X, d)$  is Ptolemaic with the distance  $d(x, y) = |x - y|$ . Let us notice that the following lemma is true [3]:

**Lemma 2.1** *A normed space is Ptolemaic iff it is an inner product space.*

We give two basic examples of Ptolemaic spaces [3].

**Example 2.2 1<sup>o</sup>.** *The space  $\mathbf{R}^n$  with the Euclidean metric  $d(x, y) = |x - y|$  is a Ptolemaic metric space.*

**2<sup>o</sup>.** *The space  $\mathbf{R}^n$  with the chordal metric on the unit Riemann sphere  $\bar{d}(x, y) = \frac{2|x - y|}{\sqrt{1+|x|^2}\sqrt{1+|y|^2}}$  is a Ptolemaic metric space.*

We will illustrate following considerations with the previous examples of Ptolemaic metric spaces in the case of dimension  $n = 2$ .

## 3 The main results

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Let us fix three points  $A, B, C \in X$  and form distances:

$$(3.1) \quad a = d(B, C), \quad b = d(C, A), \quad c = d(A, B).$$

For any point  $M \in X$  let us form distances:

$$(3.2) \quad d_1 = d(M, A), \quad d_2 = d(M, B), \quad d_3 = d(M, C).$$

### Inequality $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$

Let us determine a set of  $M$  points of metric spaces  $X$  for which the following inequality is true:

$$(3.3) \quad d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1.$$

Let us form two functions:

$$(3.4) \quad \alpha_1 = \alpha_1(M) = 4d_2^2d_3^2 - (d_1^2 - (d_2^2 + d_3^2))^2,$$

$$(3.5) \quad \beta_1 = \beta_1(M) = d_2^2 + d_3^2 - d_1^2.$$

**Lemma 3.1** *For points  $A, B$  and  $C$  inequality  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  is true.*

**Proof.** For point  $A$ :  $d_1 = 0$  and  $\alpha_1 = -(c^2 - b^2)^2 \leq 0$  are true. Similarly, the previous inequality is true for the points  $B$  and  $C$ . ■

**Example 3.2** *Let vertices  $A, B, C$  of the triangle  $ABC$  in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  be given by coordinates  $A(a_1, b_1), B(a_2, b_2), C(a_3, b_3)$  and let  $M(x, y)$  be any point in its plane.*

**1<sup>0</sup>.** *Let us in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  use Euclidean metric  $\mathbf{d}$ . Let us specify the form of term  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  which correspond to functions (3.4) and (3.5) respectively. It is true:*

$$(3.6) \quad \alpha_1 = \mathbf{k}(x^2 + y^2)^2 + (\mathbf{A}_1 x + \mathbf{B}_1 y)(x^2 + y^2) + \mathbf{C}_1 x^2 + \mathbf{D}_1 xy + \mathbf{E}_1 y^2 + \mathbf{F}_1 x + \mathbf{G}_1 y + \mathbf{H}_1,$$

*for some coefficients  $\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{B}_1, \mathbf{C}_1, \mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{E}_1, \mathbf{F}_1, \mathbf{G}_1, \mathbf{H}_1 \in \mathbf{R}$  ( $\mathbf{k} = 3$ ). Equality  $\alpha_1 = 0$  determines the algebraic curve of the fourth order. By inequality  $\alpha_1 < 0$  we determine the interior of the previous curve. Also, it is true:*

$$(3.7) \quad \beta_1 = \mathbf{A}_2(x^2 + y^2) + \mathbf{B}_2 x + \mathbf{C}_2 y + \mathbf{D}_2,$$

*for some coefficients  $\mathbf{A}_2, \mathbf{B}_2, \mathbf{C}_2, \mathbf{D}_2 \in \mathbf{R}$  ( $\mathbf{A}_2 = 1$ ). If  $\mathbf{B}_2^2 + \mathbf{C}_2^2 > 4\mathbf{D}_2$  equality  $\beta_1 = 0$  is possible and determines the circle. Then by inequality  $\beta_1 < 0$  we determine the interior of the circle.*

**2<sup>0</sup>.** *Let us in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  use chordal metric  $\bar{\mathbf{d}}$ . Let us specify the form of the term  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\beta}_1$  which correspond to functions (3.4) and (3.5) respectively. It is true:*

$$(3.8) \quad \bar{\alpha}_1 = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{k}}(x^2 + y^2)^2 + (\bar{\mathbf{A}}_1 x + \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1 y)(x^2 + y^2) + \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1 x^2 + \bar{\mathbf{D}}_1 xy + \bar{\mathbf{E}}_1 y^2 + \bar{\mathbf{F}}_1 x + \bar{\mathbf{G}}_1 y + \bar{\mathbf{H}}_1}{(1 + x^2 + y^2)^2(1 + a_1^2 + b_1^2)^2(1 + a_2^2 + b_2^2)^2(1 + a_3^2 + b_3^2)^2},$$

*for some coefficients  $\bar{\mathbf{k}}, \bar{\mathbf{A}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{D}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{E}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{F}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{G}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{H}}_1 \in \mathbf{R}$ . If  $\bar{\mathbf{k}} \neq 0$  equality  $\bar{\alpha}_1 = 0$  determines the algebraic curve of the fourth order. Then by inequality  $\bar{\alpha}_1 < 0$  we determine the interior of the previous curve. Also, it is true:*

$$(3.9) \quad \bar{\beta}_1 = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{A}}_2(x^2 + y^2) + \bar{\mathbf{B}}_2 x + \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2 y + \bar{\mathbf{D}}_2}{(1 + x^2 + y^2)(1 + a_1^2 + b_1^2)(1 + a_2^2 + b_2^2)(1 + a_3^2 + b_3^2)},$$

*for some coefficients  $\bar{\mathbf{A}}_2, \bar{\mathbf{B}}_2, \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2, \bar{\mathbf{D}}_2 \in \mathbf{R}$ . If  $\bar{\mathbf{A}}_2 \neq 0$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{B}}_2^2 + \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2^2 > 4\bar{\mathbf{A}}_2\bar{\mathbf{D}}_2$  equality  $\bar{\beta}_1 = 0$  is possible and determines the circle. Then by the inequality  $\bar{\beta}_1 < 0$  we determine the interior of the circle.*

Further, let us notice that for the function  $\alpha_1$ :

$$(3.10) \quad \alpha_1 = (d_2 + d_3 - d_1)(d_3 + d_1 - d_2)(d_1 + d_2 - d_3)(d_1 + d_2 + d_3).$$

According to (3.10) equality  $\alpha_1 = 0$  is equivalent with union of equalities:

$$(3.11) \quad \alpha_1^{(1)} = d_2 + d_3 - d_1 = 0,$$

$$(3.12) \quad \alpha_1^{(2)} = d_3 + d_1 - d_2 = 0,$$

$$(3.13) \quad \alpha_1^{(3)} = d_1 + d_2 - d_3 = 0.$$

Subject to our further consideration is an inequality  $\alpha_1^{(1)} \leq 0$ .

**Lemma 3.3** **1<sup>0</sup>**. For the point  $B$ :  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$  iff  $c \geq a$ . **2<sup>0</sup>**. For the point  $C$ :  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$  iff  $b \geq a$ .

**Remark 3.4** If  $a > b, c$  then for points  $B$  and  $C$ :  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  and  $\alpha_1^{(1)} > 0$ .

**Lemma 3.5** If for point  $M$ :  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$ , then we have inequalities:

$$(3.14) \quad d_1 + d_2 \geq d_3, \text{ where equality is true for } M = B \text{ and } a = c$$

and

$$(3.15) \quad d_3 + d_1 \geq d_2, \text{ where equality is true for } M = C \text{ and } a = b.$$

**Proof.** It is true

$$(3.16) \quad (d_1) + d_2 - d_3 \geq (d_2 + d_3) + d_2 - d_3 = 2d_2 \geq 0.$$

Hence, the inequality (3.14) follows. Thus, the equality is true only if  $M = B$  ( $d_2 = 0$ ) and  $a = c$ . Analogously, it is true

$$(3.17) \quad d_3 + (d_1) - d_2 \geq d_3 + (d_2 + d_3) - d_2 = 2d_3 \geq 0.$$

Hence, the inequality (3.15) follows. Thus, the equality is true only if  $M = C$  ( $d_3 = 0$ ) and  $a = b$ . ■

**Lemma 3.6** **1<sup>0</sup>**. If the point  $M$  fulfills  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$  then the following implication is true:

$$(3.18) \quad \alpha_1 \leq 0 \implies \beta_1 \leq 0.$$

**2<sup>0</sup>**. If the point  $M$  fulfills  $d_3 + d_1 \leq d_2$  or  $d_1 + d_2 \leq d_3$  then the following implication is true:

$$(3.19) \quad \alpha_1 \leq 0 \implies \beta_1 \geq 0.$$

**Proof.** The implications (3.18) and (3.19) have the same assumptions:

$$(3.20) \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= 4d_2^2d_3^2 - (d_1^2 - d_2^2 - d_3^2)^2 \\ &= (2d_2d_3 - d_1^2 + d_2^2 + d_3^2)(2d_2d_3 + d_1^2 - d_2^2 - d_3^2) \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

which follow if the following conjunction is true

$$(3.21) \quad (2d_2d_3 - d_1^2 + d_2^2 + d_3^2) \leq 0 \text{ and } (2d_2d_3 + d_1^2 - d_2^2 - d_3^2) \geq 0$$

or the conjunction

$$(3.22) \quad (2d_2d_3 - d_1^2 + d_2^2 + d_3^2) \geq 0 \text{ and } (2d_2d_3 + d_1^2 - d_2^2 - d_3^2) \leq 0.$$

**1<sup>0</sup>.** Let  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$  be true. For  $M = B$  or  $M = C$  implication (3.18) is directly verified. Especially for  $M = B$  and  $a = c$  or for  $M = C$  and  $a = b$  equality  $\beta_1 = 0$  is true. Let us assume that  $M \neq B, C$  and let us assume that  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  in (3.18) be true. On the basis of  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$ , according to lemma 3.5 it follows that  $d_1 + d_2 > d_3$  and  $d_3 + d_1 > d_2$ . Therefore

$$(3.23) \quad 2d_2d_3 - d_1^2 + d_2^2 + d_3^2 = (d_2 + d_3)^2 - d_1^2 \leq 0$$

and

$$(3.24) \quad 2d_2d_3 + d_1^2 - d_2^3 - d_3^2 = (d_1 - d_2 + d_3)(d_1 + d_2 - d_3) > 0.$$

From (3.23) and (3.24) we can conclude that the conjunction (3.21) is true and conjunction (3.22) is not true. From the conjunction (3.21) it follows that  $d_1^2 - d_2^2 - d_3^2 \geq 2d_2d_3 > d_2^2 + d_3^2 - d_1^2$  and from there  $d_1^2 > d_2^2 + d_3^2$ , i.e.  $\beta_1 < 0$ .

**2<sup>0</sup>.** Let  $d_3 + d_1 \leq d_2$  be true. For  $M = B$  or  $M = C$  implication (3.19) is directly verified. Especially for  $M = B$  and  $a = c$  or for  $M = C$  and  $a = b$  equality  $\beta_1 = 0$  is true. Let us assume that  $M \neq B, C$  and let us assume that  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  in (3.19) be true. On the basis of  $d_3 + d_1 \leq d_2$ , according to the lemma analogous to lemma 3.5, it follows  $d_2 + d_3 > d_1$  and  $d_1 + d_2 > d_3$ . Therefore

$$(3.25) \quad 2d_2d_3 - d_1^2 + d_2^2 + d_3^2 = (d_2 + d_3)^2 - d_1^2 > 0$$

and

$$(3.26) \quad 2d_2d_3 + d_1^2 - d_2^3 - d_3^2 = (d_1 - d_2 + d_3)(d_1 + d_2 - d_3) \leq 0.$$

From (3.25) and (3.26) we can conclude that conjunction (3.22) is true and conjunction (3.21) is not true. From conjunction (3.22) follows  $d_2^2 + d_3^2 - d_1^2 \geq 2d_2d_3 > d_1^2 - d_2^2 - d_3^2$  and therefore,  $d_2^2 + d_3^2 > d_1^2$ , i.e.  $\beta_1 > 0$ . The implication (3.19) is similarly verified in the case of the inequality  $d_1 + d_2 \leq d_3$ . ■

**Lemma 3.7** *In the metric space  $X$  the condition  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$  is equivalent to the conjunction  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_1 \leq 0$ .*

**Proof.** ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let for the point  $M$  the condition  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$  be true. On the basis of equality (3.10) and on the basis of lemma 3.5 it follows  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$ . Therefore, on the basis of lemma 3.6, it follows  $\beta_1 \leq 0$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let for the point  $M$  conjunction  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_1 \leq 0$  be true. Then from the conjunction

$$(3.27) \quad \alpha_1 = (d_2 + d_3 - d_1)(d_2 + d_3 + d_1)(2d_2d_3 - \beta_1) \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_1 \leq 0$$

follows the condition  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$ . ■

**Lemma 3.8** *In Ptolemaic metric space  $X$  an inequality  $\alpha_1^{(1)} \leq 0$  is true iff  $b \geq a$  or  $c \geq a$ .*

**Proof.** On the basis of lemma 3.3 if  $a \leq c$  then for the point  $B$  we have:  $\alpha_1^{(1)} = a - c \leq 0$  or if  $a \leq b$  then for the point  $C$  we have:  $\alpha_1^{(1)} = b - a \leq 0$ . Conversely, let  $a > b, c$  be true. Let  $M \in X \setminus \{A, B, C\}$  be any point. Then on the basis of Ptolemaic inequality

$$(3.28) \quad c \cdot d_3 + b \cdot d_2 \geq a \cdot d_1$$

and assumption  $a > b, c$  we can conclude

$$(3.29) \quad \begin{aligned} (c - a)d_3 + (b - a)d_2 + a(d_2 + d_3 - d_1) &\geq 0 \\ \implies \alpha_1^{(1)} = d_2 + d_3 - d_1 &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

By contraposition the statement follows. ■

On the basis of the previous lemmas we can conclude the following theorem is true.

**Theorem 3.9** *In the metric space  $X$  a point  $M$  fulfills  $\alpha_1^{(1)} = d_2 + d_3 - d_1 \leq 0$  iff  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_1 \leq 0$  are true. In Ptolemaic metric space  $X$  the set of these points  $M$  is non-empty iff:*

$$(3.30) \quad b \geq a \text{ or } c \geq a.$$

**Inequalities  $d_2 + d_3 \leq d_1$ ,  $d_3 + d_1 \leq d_2$ ,  $d_1 + d_2 \leq d_3$**

Let us determine set of points  $M$  in (Ptolemaic) metric spaces for which some inequalities in (1.3) are true. With respect to point  $A$  we formed functions (3.4) and (3.5). Next, with respect to point  $B$  let us form functions:

$$(3.31) \quad \alpha_2 = \alpha_2(M) = 4d_3^2d_1^2 - (d_2^2 - (d_3^2 + d_1^2))^2,$$

$$(3.32) \quad \beta_2 = \beta_2(M) = d_3^2 + d_1^2 - d_2^2$$

and with respect to  $C$  point let us form functions:

$$(3.33) \quad \alpha_3 = \alpha_3(M) = 4d_1^2d_2^2 - (d_3^2 - (d_1^2 + d_2^2))^2,$$

$$(3.34) \quad \beta_3 = \beta_3(M) = d_1^2 + d_2^2 - d_3^2.$$

The following equality  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3$  is true. Analogously to the theorem 3.9 we can conclude the following theorems are true.

**Theorem 3.10** *In the metric space  $X$  point  $M$  fulfills  $\alpha_1^{(2)} = d_3 + d_1 - d_2 \leq 0$  iff  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_2 \leq 0$  are true. In Ptolemaic metric space  $X$  the set of these points  $M$  is non-empty iff:*

$$(3.35) \quad c \geq b \text{ or } a \geq b.$$

**Theorem 3.11** *In the metric space  $X$  point  $M$  fulfills  $\alpha_1^{(3)} = d_1 + d_2 - d_3 \leq 0$  iff  $\alpha_1 \leq 0$  and  $\beta_3 \leq 0$  are true. In Ptolemaic metric space  $X$  the set of these points  $M$  is non-empty iff:*

$$(3.36) \quad a \geq c \text{ or } b \geq c.$$

For (Ptolemaic) metric space  $X$  the set of the points  $M$  with Möbius-Pompeïu metric property fulfill a conjunction:

$$(3.37) \quad \alpha_1^{(1)} > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_1^{(2)} > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_1^{(3)} > 0.$$

Using theorems 3.9, 3.10 and 3.11 we can determine when some inequalities in (3.37) are not true.

Finally, in the following example let us illustrate a set of points in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  with Möbius-Pompeïu metric property, with respect to three fixed points  $A, B, C \in \mathbf{R}^2$ , if we use metrics  $\underline{d}$  and  $\bar{d}$  from the example 2.2.

**Example 3.12 1<sup>0</sup>.** *Let in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  the Euclidean metric  $\underline{d}$  is used. By picture 1 we illustrate the case of the triangle  $ABC$  for which  $\mathbf{a} > \mathbf{c} > \mathbf{b}$  is true. Then  $\alpha_1^{(1)} > 0$  is true (the curve  $\alpha_1^{(1)} = 0$ , on the basis of the theorem 3.9, has empty interior and border), otherwise the curves  $\alpha_1^{(2)} = 0, \alpha_1^{(3)} = 0$  have non-empty interior and border. We can form a non-degenerative triangle from the remaining points.*

Picture 1.

In the case of the equilateral triangle  $ABC$  the curves  $\alpha_1^{(1)}=0$ ,  $\alpha_1^{(2)}=0$  and  $\alpha_1^{(3)}=0$  transform onto the (smaller) arcs  $\widehat{BC}$ ,  $\widehat{CA}$  and  $\widehat{AB}$  of the circumcircle. Hence, we have Möbius-Pompeiu theorem in the following form: for equilateral triangle  $ABC$  the set of points  $M$  in the plane, such that from distances  $\mathbf{d}_1 = \mathbf{d}(M, A)$ ,  $\mathbf{d}_2 = \mathbf{d}(M, B)$  and  $\mathbf{d}_3 = \mathbf{d}(M, C)$  one can form a degenerative triangle, is circumcircle; from the other points in the plane we can form non-degenerative triangle.

**2<sup>o</sup>.** Let in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  the chordal metric  $\bar{\mathbf{d}}$  is used. Let  $A, B, C \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \{(0, 0, 1)\}$  be points on the unit Riemann sphere  $\mathcal{S}$ , with uniquely determined projections:

$$A' = \mathcal{P}^{-1}(A) = a_1 + b_1 i, B' = \mathcal{P}^{-1}(B) = a_2 + b_2 i, C' = \mathcal{P}^{-1}(C) = a_3 + b_3 i \in \mathbf{C}$$

with inversely stereographical projection from the north pole:

$$\mathcal{P}^{-1} = \mathcal{P}^{-1}(x, y, z) = \left( \frac{x}{1-z} \right) + \left( \frac{y}{1-z} \right) i : \mathcal{S} \setminus \{(0, 0, 1)\} \longrightarrow \mathbf{C}.$$

Through points  $A, B, C$  on the Riemann sphere let us set great circles (picture 2). In the complex plane we uniquely determine images of great circles as corresponding circles through points  $A', B', C'$  (picture 3). By picture 3 we illustrate the case of points  $A', B', C'$  for which  $\bar{\mathbf{b}} > \bar{\mathbf{c}} > \bar{\mathbf{a}}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{k}} \neq 0$  are true. Then  $\bar{\alpha}_1^{(2)} > 0$  (the curve  $\bar{\alpha}_1^{(2)} = 0$ , on the basis of the theorem 3.10, has empty interior and border), otherwise curves  $\bar{\alpha}_1^{(1)} = 0$ ,  $\bar{\alpha}_1^{(3)} = 0$  have non-empty interior and border. From the remaining points we can form a non-degenerative triangle.

Picture 2.

Picture 3.



Let us consider the case when  $A, B, C$  are chordally equidistantly arranged points on the Riemann sphere  $\mathcal{S}$ . Then the set of points  $M$  on the Riemann sphere, being such that from chordal distances  $\bar{d}_1 = \bar{d}(M, A)$ ,  $\bar{d}_2 = \bar{d}(M, B)$  and  $\bar{d}_3 = \bar{d}(M, C)$  one can form a degenerative triangle, is circumcircle; from other points on the Riemann sphere one can form a non-degenerative triangle. Using inverse stereographical projection  $\mathcal{P}^{-1}$  we can conclude that analogous statement in complex plane  $\mathbf{C}$  is valid if we use chordal metric  $\bar{d}$ .

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